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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Katsumi AOYAGI et al.

Title: METHOD OF DETECTING HEPATITIS C VIRUS

Appl. No.: 10/577,853

International 10/28/2004

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Examiner: Michelle S. Horning

Art Unit: 1648

Confirmation

4864

Number:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated September 8, 2010, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: